

**Specification Amendments**

Page 3, replace the paragraph appearing at lines 32-34, as initially presented, with the following:

--The refractory ore/concentrate may comprise a sulphide ore, a carbonaceous ore, pyrites, arsenopyrite, stibnite, and may contain other compounds, such as selenium and tellurium.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph appearing at lines 22-25, as initially presented, with the following:

--Initial oxidation of the finely ground ore/concentrates to about 12%, as opposed to almost fully oxidising the ore/concentrate, allows a gold extraction of approximately 90% and a sodium cyanide consumption of approximately 2 kg per ton of ore.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph appearing at lines 26-28, as initially presented, with the following:

--As a comparison, leaching a finely ground ore/concentrate without partial oxidation consumed approximately 16-20 kilograms of sodium cyanide per ton of ore.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph appearing at lines 33-37, as initially presented, with the following:

--Fine grinding already results in a decrease of cyanide consumption relative to unground product. Partial oxidation provided a further reduction in cyanide consumption relative to unoxidised material. Maintaining the temperature at between 60-85 provided a further reduction in the cyanide consumption.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph appearing at lines 1-3, as initially presented, with the following:

--Using the process according to the invention, leaching of the ore/concentrate was completed within 8-24 hours as opposed to 54-72 hours for the unoxidised material.--